National Gallery of Art

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 4, 2000

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NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART KICKS OFF SECOND YEAR

OF CHILDREN'S FREE FILM SERIES

Washington, D.C. -- The National Gallery of Art will kick off the second year of its free monthly Children's Film Program on January 8, 2000. Developed for children ages three to twelve, the program presents a broad range of recently produced foreign and domestic films, including live-action and animated productions, as well as films made by children. The movies are shown one Saturday each month at 10:30 a.m. in the East Building large auditorium/theater on the Mall at Fourth Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W. The monthly series begins on January 8 and will continue on February 12, March 4, April 8 (repeated on April 15), May 20, June 10, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, and December 2. Seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

This program is made possible by the generous support of washingtonpost.com, the Prince Charitable Trusts, and a gift in loving memory of Emmy Ahrend Banzhaf.

"We are proud of the continued success of the Children's Film Program and we are delighted with the young audiences this program is attracting to the Gallery," said Earl A. Powell III, director, National Gallery of Art.

More than 50 films from the United States, Canada, Norway, Great Britain, France, Sweden, The Netherlands, and Japan are scheduled, including *Babar: King of the Elephants*, a classic story for children of all ages, on January 8, and *From the Top of the Key*, a short film that cleverly challenges stereotypes, on February 12. On April 8 and repeated on April 15, for a second year, the Gallery is collaborating with *Filmfest D.C. for Kids* (part of Filmfest D.C., the Washington, D.C. International Film Festival), which promises to add even more excitement and diversity to the film lineup.

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children's film program . . . page 2

For up-to-date information on the current month's films or to receive the *Family Activities at the National Gallery of Art* brochure, which includes the Children's Film Program Calendar, call (202) 789-4995. Other questions about the Children's Film Program should be directed to:

Heidi Hinish Family program coordinator e-mail: h-hinish@nga.gov telephone: (202) 842-6880

or

Attn: Children's Film Program
Department of Teacher and School Programs
National Gallery of Art
Washington, D.C. 20565.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The National Gallery of Art and Sculpture Garden, located on the National Mall between Third and Ninth Streets at Constitution Avenue, N.W., is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free. For general information, call (202) 737-4215, or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the National Gallery of Art's Web site at www.nga.gov. To receive the Gallery's free bimonthly Calendar of Events, call (202) 842-6662.

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Enclosure: "Family Activities at the National Gallery of Art" brochure includes Children's Film Program Schedule.